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Agenda item 36

Afghanistan, Belgium, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Kuwait, Latvia, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Spain, Tajikistan, Thailand and United States of America: draft resolution

The situation in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/77 of 9 December 2015 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also all relevant Security Council resolutions and statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan, in particular resolutions 2189 (2014) of 12 December 2014, 2210 (2015) of 16 March 2015 and 2274 (2016) of 15 March 2016,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

Welcoming the efforts by Afghanistan in the framework of the transformation decade (2015-2024) to consolidate its sovereignty through strengthening a fully functioning, sustainable State in the service of its people, with the goal of becoming fully self-reliant,

Reaffirming the long-term partnership between the Government of Afghanistan and the international community based on their renewed mutual commitments, as laid down in the Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework as agreed upon at the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan on 5 October 2016, and recalling the long-term commitment of the international community to Afghanistan, reaffirmed at the Conference on 5 October 2016, with the aim of strengthening national ownership and leadership, taking into account the evolving nature of the presence of the international community,

Reaffirming also the commitment of the international community to continue to support the training, equipping, financing and development of the capacity of the

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Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, including as agreed in the Chicago Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2012, in the Wales Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2014 and at the Warsaw Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2016, and honouring the memory of the men and women of the Afghan and international security forces who have given their lives in the course of duty,

Reiterating the urgent need to tackle the challenges facing Afghanistan, in particular the region-based violent extremist activities of the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and criminals, including those involved in the narcotics trade, the development of the institutions of the Government of Afghanistan, including at the subnational level, the strengthening of the rule of law and democratic processes, the fight against corruption, the continuation of justice sector reform, the promotion of the peace process, without prejudice to the fulfilment of the measures introduced by the Security Council in its resolutions 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999, 1988 (2011) and 1989 (2011) of 17 June 2011, 2082 (2012) and 2083 (2012) of 17 December 2012, 2160 (2014) and 2161 (2014) of 17 June 2014, 2253 (2015) of 17 December 2015 and 2255 (2015) of 21 December 2015 and other relevant resolutions, an Afghan-led transitional justice process, the safe and voluntary return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons in an orderly and dignified manner, the promotion and protection of human rights, interfaith and intra-faith tolerance and the advancement of economic and social development,

Expressing serious concern regarding the dangerous presence and activities of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) (Da'esh) affiliates in Afghanistan and their brutal acts, including the killing of Afghan nationals,

Expressing its deep concern about the continuous high level of violence in Afghanistan, especially the number of civilian casualties, condemning in the strongest terms all terrorist activity and all violent attacks, recalling that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups are responsible for the significant majority of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as applicable, and for all appropriate measures to be taken to protect civilians, humanitarian workers and aid and humanitarian facilities,

Welcoming the achievements of the National Unity Government in political, economic, governance and social reforms and in the management of transition, underlining the need to preserve past achievements, and urging further improvement in this regard, in particular to address poverty and the delivery of services, stimulate economic growth, create employment opportunities, increase domestic revenue and promote human rights, especially women's rights and the rights of persons belonging to minorities,

Emphasizing the central and impartial role of the United Nations in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan, expressing its appreciation and strong support for all of the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for Afghanistan in this regard, expressing its appreciation also for the work of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan in accordance with Security Council resolution 2274 (2016), and stressing the important role of the Assistance Mission in seeking to further improve the coherence and coordination of international civilian efforts, guided by the principle of reinforcing Afghan ownership and leadership,

Welcoming the reports of the Secretary-General and the recommendations contained therein,

1. *Pledges its continued support* to the Government and people of Afghanistan as they rebuild a stable, secure and economically self-sufficient State, free of terrorism and narcotics, and strengthen the foundations of a constitutional democracy as a responsible member of the international community;

2. *Encourages* all partners to support constructively the Government of Afghanistan's reform agenda, including as envisaged in the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework and the Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework, so as to secure a prosperous and democratic Afghanistan, focusing on strengthening the constitutional checks and balances that guarantee citizens' rights and obligations and implementing structural reform to enable an accountable and effective Government to deliver concrete progress to its people;

3. *Supports* the continuing and growing ownership of reconstruction and development efforts by the Government of Afghanistan, emphasizes the crucial need to achieve ownership and accountability in all fields of governance and to improve institutional capabilities, including at the subnational level, in order to use aid more effectively, and underscores in this regard the importance of the commitments of the international community and of the new set of indicators for the Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework, as reiterated in the communiqué of the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan in October 2016;

Security

4. *Recognizes* the commitment of the international community to support the training, equipping, financing and development of the capacity of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces beyond the end of the transition period and throughout the transformation decade, including as agreed in the Chicago Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2012, the Wales Summit Declaration in 2014, and the Warsaw Summit Declaration in 2016, including through the Resolute Support Mission, as welcomed by the Security Council in its resolution 2189 (2014);

5. *Welcomes* the pledges and commitments of the Warsaw Summit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, held on 8 and 9 July 2016 to continue national contributions to the financial sustainment of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, including until the end of 2020, and to sustain the Resolute Support Mission beyond 2016, to continue to deliver training, advice and assistance to the Afghan security institutions, including the police, the air force and special operations forces;

6. *Reiterates once again its serious concern* about the security situation in Afghanistan, stresses the need to continue to address the threat to the security and stability of Afghanistan caused by the region-based violent extremist and other illegal armed groups and criminals, including those involved in the narcotics trade, expresses concern over the serious threat posed by the presence of foreign terrorist fighters, reiterates in this regard its call for the full and serious implementation of measures and the application of procedures introduced in relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 1267 (1999), 1988 (2011), 1989 (2011), 2082 (2012), 2083 (2012), 2160 (2014), 2161 (2014), 2253 (2015) and 2255 (2015), and

calls upon all States to strengthen their international and regional cooperation to enhance information-sharing, border control, law enforcement and criminal justice to better counter the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters and returning foreign terrorist fighters in Afghanistan and the region;

7. *Expresses its serious concern* regarding the presence of terrorist organizations, in particular Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) (Da'esh), and its brutal acts, including killings of Afghan nationals, and in this regard affirms its support for the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan to combat these threats in the country;

8. *Condemns in the strongest terms* all unlawful acts of violence, intimidation and attacks, including improvised explosive device attacks, suicide attacks, assassinations, including of public figures, abductions, indiscriminate attacks against civilians, killings, attacks against individuals, media groups and organs of society engaged in the promotion and protection of universally recognized human rights, attacks against humanitarian workers and the targeting of Afghan and international forces, which have a deleterious effect on stabilization and development efforts in Afghanistan, and also condemns the use, by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups, of civilians as human shields, Taliban attacks and acts of international terrorists;

9. *Stresses* the need for the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to continue to work closely together and to improve coordination in countering such acts, which are threatening peace and stability in Afghanistan and the democratic process, the achievements and the continued implementation of the Afghanistan development gains and process, as well as humanitarian aid measures, recognizes the achievements of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces in this regard, and calls upon all Member States, in particular neighbouring countries, to deny those groups any form of sanctuary, freedom of operations, movement, recruitment and financial, material or political support that endangers the state system and regional peace and security;

10. *Welcomes* the assumption of full security responsibility by the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, commends the resiliency and courage displayed in this regard, calls upon the international community to provide the support necessary to increase security, including public order, law enforcement, the security of Afghanistan's borders and the preservation of the constitutional rights of Afghan citizens, as well as to provide continued support by training, equipping and contributing to the financing of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces to take on the task of securing their country and fighting against international terrorism, underscores the importance of the Chicago, Wales and Warsaw Summit Declarations on Afghanistan and other relevant agreements with regional and international partners, and takes note in this regard of the Warsaw Summit Declaration on Afghanistan;

11. *Also welcomes*, in this regard, the presence of the Resolute Support Mission, which was preceded by the International Security Assistance Force, expresses its appreciation to Member States for having contributed personnel, equipment and other resources to the Mission and for the support provided to the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces by all international partners, in

particular by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization through its previous combat and current non-combat missions in Afghanistan, as well as other bilateral training programmes, and encourages further coordination, where appropriate;

12. *Further welcomes* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan, with a view to ensuring stability and providing conditions for the effective rule of law and respect for human rights, in particular women and children's rights, to continue its security sector reform by making the security provision, management and oversight of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces more effective and accountable, recognizes the importance of further implementation of the Afghan National Police Strategy and the 10-year vision presented by the Ministry of Interior, and expresses its appreciation for the support Member States have provided to the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces;

13. *Recalls* that regional security cooperation plays a key role in maintaining stability in Afghanistan and the region, welcomes the progress achieved by Afghanistan and regional partners in this regard, and calls for further efforts by Afghanistan and regional partners and organizations, including the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, to strengthen their partnership and cooperation, including to enhance the capabilities of the Afghan security forces and to enhance security in the region;

14. *Remains deeply concerned* about the persistent problem of anti-personnel landmines and explosive remnants of war, welcomes the achievements to date in the implementation of the Mine Action Programme for Afghanistan, aimed at declaring Afghanistan mine-free by 2023, underscores the importance of sustained international assistance, encourages the Government of Afghanistan, with the support of the United Nations and all relevant actors, to continue its efforts to meet its responsibilities under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[1] expresses concern at the use of improvised explosive devices by the Taliban against civilians and the Afghan security forces, and notes the need to enhance coordination and information-sharing between both Member States and the private sector to prevent the flow of improvised explosive device components to the Taliban;

Peace and reconciliation

15. *Welcomes* the peace agreement signed by the Government of Afghanistan and the High Peace Council with Hizb-i Islami on 22 September 2016 as an important development in the Government's overall peace effort, and calls for its effective implementation;

16. *Recognizes* that an Afghan-led inclusive peace process backed by regional actors, in particular Pakistan, supported by the international community, is essential for achieving long-term peace and stability in Afghanistan, reiterates its firm commitment to support the Government of Afghanistan in its efforts in this regard with all those who renounce violence, sever ties with international terrorist organizations, including Al-Qaida, respect the Constitution, including its human rights provisions, notably the rights of women and girls, as well as the rights of persons belonging to minorities, and are willing to join in building a peaceful

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, No. 35597.

Afghanistan, with full respect for the implementation of the measures and application of the procedures introduced by the Security Council in its resolutions 1267 (1999), 1988 (2011), 2082 (2012), 2160 (2014) and 2255 (2015), as well as other relevant resolutions of the Council, calls upon all relevant States, especially neighbouring countries, and international organizations to remain engaged in the Afghan-led peace process, and recognizes the impact terrorist attacks have on the Afghan people and risk having on future prospects for a peace settlement;

17. *Encourages* Afghanistan and Pakistan to enhance their relationship, which could lead to cooperation to effectively combat terrorism and move forward the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process;

18. *Recalls* that women play a vital role in the peace process, as recognized by the Security Council in its resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and in related resolutions, including resolution 2242 (2015) of 13 October 2015, welcomes steps taken by the Government of Afghanistan in implementing its national action plan on women, peace and security, recognizes in this regard women's increasing role in the peace process, as manifested in their representation in the High Peace Council and its provincial committees and secretariats, as well as their contribution to the development of the Afghanistan peace and reconciliation strategy, as reflected in the recent report of the Secretary-General,[2] supports further efforts in this regard, and encourages the Government of Afghanistan to further support the active participation of women in the peace process;

19. *Recognizes* that there is no purely military solution to ensure the stability of Afghanistan, welcomes all regional and international partners of Afghanistan to continue their efforts to support peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan, including through the work of the Quadrilateral Coordination Group on the Afghan Peace and Reconciliation Process of Afghanistan, China, Pakistan and the United States of America, towards the holding of early direct peace talks between the Government of Afghanistan and authorized representatives of Taliban groups, and calls upon Group members and all other regional and international partners of Afghanistan to continue their efforts;

Democracy

20. *Emphasizes* the importance of all parties in Afghanistan working together to achieve a unified, peaceful, democratic and prosperous future for all the people of Afghanistan;

21. *Recalls* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan, reiterated at the Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan, to strengthen and improve Afghanistan's electoral process and welcomes in this regard the issuance of the electoral law on 28 September 2016 and the intention of the Government to implement in 2017 the essential electoral reforms and prepare for elections to further restore trust and confidence in the electoral process and its institutions;

22. *Welcomes* the increasingly wide and comprehensive dialogue on the political transition towards strengthening the unity of the Afghan people, and underscores its importance for consolidating democracy and Afghan political stability;

[2] A/70/1033-S/2016/768.

23. *Calls upon* the Government of Afghanistan to continue to effectively reform the public administration sector in order to implement the rule of law and to ensure good governance and accountability, and welcomes the efforts of the Government and its commitments made in this regard;

Rule of law, human rights and good governance

24. *Emphasizes* that good governance, the rule of law and human rights form the foundation for the achievement of a stable and prosperous Afghanistan;

25. *Recalls* the constitutional guarantee of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans without discrimination of any kind, stresses the need to fully implement the human rights provisions of the Afghan Constitution, in accordance with obligations under applicable international law, in particular those regarding the full enjoyment by women and children of their human rights, and acknowledges efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in this regard;

26. *Reiterates* its concern at the destructive consequences of violent and terrorist activities, including against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and other illegal armed groups and criminals, on the enjoyment of human rights and for the capacity of the Government to ensure human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans, stresses the need to further promote tolerance and religious freedom and to ensure respect for the right to freedom of expression and the right to freedom of thought, conscience or belief as enshrined in the Afghan Constitution and the international covenants that Afghanistan adheres to, emphasizes the necessity of investigating allegations of current and past violations, stresses the importance of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims and of bringing the perpetrators to justice in accordance with national and international law, calls for full implementation of the mass media law, while noting with concern and condemning the continuing intimidation and violence targeting Afghan journalists, such as cases of abduction and even the killing of journalists by terrorist and extremist and criminal groups, urges that harassment and attacks on journalists be investigated by Afghan authorities and that those responsible be brought to justice, and welcomes in this regard the issuance of the presidential decree of 31 January 2016 outlining specific measures for ensuring the safety, security and protection of journalists;

27. *Also reiterates* its unwavering commitment and that of the Government of Afghanistan to achieving the full and equal participation of women in all spheres of Afghan life, and commends the achievements and efforts of the Government aimed at countering discrimination and protecting and promoting the equal rights of women and men as guaranteed, inter alia, by its ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[3] and by the Afghan Constitution, the National Action Plan for the Women of Afghanistan and the law on the elimination of violence against women;

28. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children in Afghanistan, and recalls the need for the full

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[4] its Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography[5] and its Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict[6] by all States parties, as well as of Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005, and all other subsequent resolutions on children and armed conflict, and Council resolutions 1998 (2011) and 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016 on attacks against schools and/or hospitals, in particular by terrorist and extremist and criminal groups, commends the Government of Afghanistan for introducing legislation banning the recruitment and use of children, and welcomes the progress made on the implementation of the action plan for the prevention of underage recruitment signed in January 2011 and its annex on children associated with the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces and of the road map towards compliance;

29. *Reiterates* its appreciation for the anti-corruption commitment made by the Government of Afghanistan, welcomes in this respect the establishment of the High Council on Governance, Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption, the Anti-Corruption Criminal Justice Centre and the National Procurement Commission, as measures taken by the Government to implement its comprehensive reform agenda, strengthen governance and achieve a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at the national, provincial and local levels of government, welcomes in this regard the notable progress made thus far, as presented and endorsed at the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan, and encourages continued decisive action by the Government to establish a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at the national, provincial and local levels of government;

30. *Calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of the governance objectives of Afghanistan in this regard;

Counter-narcotics

31. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in fighting drug production in Afghanistan, takes note of the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled "Afghanistan Opium Survey 2016" released in October 2016, which, inter alia, notes an increase in the production and cultivation of drugs and stresses the need to further strengthen joint, coordinated and resolute efforts by the Government, supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, international and regional actors, within their designated responsibilities, and encourages international and regional cooperation with Afghanistan in its sustained efforts to address drug production and trafficking;

32. *Stresses* the importance of a comprehensive and balanced approach in addressing the drug problem of Afghanistan, which, to be effective, must be integrated into the wider context of efforts carried out in the areas of security, governance, the rule of law, human rights and economic and social development, particularly in rural areas, including the development of improved alternative livelihood programmes;

[4] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[5] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.
[6] Ibid., vol. 2173, No. 27531.

33. *Notes with great concern* the strong nexus between the drug trade and terrorist activities by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and criminal groups, which pose a serious threat to security, the rule of law and development in Afghanistan and the region, and stresses the importance of the full implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions in this regard, including resolutions 2253 (2015) and 2255 (2015);

34. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to assist the Government of Afghanistan in implementing its National Drug Control Strategy[7] and National Drug Action Plan aimed at eliminating the cultivation, production, trafficking in and consumption of illicit drugs, including through increased support for Afghan law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, agricultural and rural development for the creation of improved alternative livelihoods for farmers, demand reduction, the elimination of illicit crops, increased public awareness and capacity-building for drug control institutions and care and treatment centres for drug addicts, reiterates its call upon the international community to channel counter-narcotics funding through the Government, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant mechanisms to the extent possible, notes that the problem of production, cultivation, trafficking and consumption of narcotic drugs should be addressed on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility of the Government of Afghanistan and the international community, and welcomes and supports the joint regional activities carried out by Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran within the framework of the triangular initiative to counter narcotics;

Social and economic development

35. *Welcomes* the new Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework setting out the strategic policy priorities of Afghanistan towards achieving self-reliance and the presentation of five new national priority programmes, on a citizens' charter, women's economic empowerment, urban development, comprehensive agriculture and national infrastructure, to improve the conditions for advancing sustainable development and stability;

36. *Renews its commitment* to long-term support for the economic development of Afghanistan on the basis of mutual accountability as stated in the Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework, urgently appeals to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations, including the international and regional financial institutions, to continue to provide, in close coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and in accordance with the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework and the national priority programmes contained therein, all possible and necessary humanitarian, recovery, reconstruction, development, financial, educational, technical and material assistance for Afghanistan, and underlines the crucial importance of continued and sequenced implementation of the reform agenda, national priority programmes and the development and governance goals as agreed in the Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework;

[7] S/2006/106, annex.

37. *Recognizes* the substantial development and notable progress achieved by Afghanistan with the steadfast support of the international community in the past years, expresses its support for the reaffirmation and consolidation of the partnership between Afghanistan and the international community during the London Conference on Afghanistan, held in 2014, at the outset of the transformation decade (2015-2024), in which Afghanistan will consolidate its sovereignty through strengthening a fully functioning, sustainable State in the service of its people, urges the Government of Afghanistan to involve all elements of Afghan society, in particular women, in the development and implementation of relief, rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction programmes, and welcomes the presentation by the Government of Afghanistan of the national priority programme on women's economic empowerment;

38. *Welcomes* the continued progress in implementing the Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework and the monitoring mechanism included therein, in which the Government of Afghanistan reaffirmed its commitment to strengthen governance, grounded in human rights, the rule of law and adherence to the Afghan Constitution and held it as integral to sustained growth and economic development, and in which the international community committed to enhance the efficiency of development aid by aligning assistance with the Afghan national priority programmes and by channelling assistance through the national budget of the Government, as outlined in the Tokyo Declaration: Partnership for Self-Reliance in Afghanistan — From Transition to Transformation,[8] and reaffirmed in the communiqué of the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan and the new Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework indicators;

39. *Commends* the Government of Afghanistan for aligning its new development strategy with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[9] acknowledges significant progress made by the Government towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2020, and urges the international community to assist the Government in completing its unfinished Millennium Development Goals and implementing its Sustainable Development Goals;

40. *Also commends* the Government of Afghanistan for improving budgetary transparency and its efforts to reach fiscal sustainability, notes the challenges ahead, and urges that continued efforts be made to meet revenue targets;

41. *Recognizes* the necessity for further improvement in the living conditions of the Afghan people, and emphasizes the need to strengthen and support the development of the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to deliver basic social services at the national, provincial and local levels, in particular education and public health services;

42. *Reiterates* the necessity of providing Afghan children, especially Afghan girls, with educational and health facilities in all parts of the country, and welcomes the progress achieved in the sector of public education;

[8] A/66/867-S/2012/532, annex I.

[9] Resolution 70/1.

Refugees

43. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, in particular Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, acknowledging the huge burden they have so far shouldered in this regard, asks for continued generous support by the international community, and asks relevant international organizations, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration, to continue to work closely with Afghanistan and the countries hosting Afghan refugees with a view to facilitating their voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return, rehabilitation and reintegration;

44. *Welcomes* the outcome of the high-level segment on the Afghan refugee problem of the sixty-sixth session of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, held in Geneva on 6 and 7 October 2015,[10] also welcomes the outcome of the International Conference on the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries, held in Geneva on 2 and 3 May 2012, and looks forward to the further implementation of the joint communiqué of the Conference, aimed at increased sustainability of returns and continued support for host countries, through the sustained support and the directed efforts of the international community;

45. *Expresses its concern* over the recent increase in the number of internally displaced persons and refugees from Afghanistan, stresses that stability and development in Afghanistan can be achieved if its citizens can see a future for themselves within their country, reiterates to host countries and the international community the obligations under international refugee law with respect to the protection of refugees, the principle of voluntary return and the right to seek asylum and to ensure full, safe and unhindered access for humanitarian relief agencies in order to provide protection and assistance to the refugees, and calls upon countries to continue to accept an appropriate number of Afghan refugees for resettlement, as a manifestation of their shared responsibility and solidarity;

46. *Takes note* of the cooperation framework recently signed between the Government of Afghanistan and the European Union, entitled "Joint Way Forward on Migration Issues", and in this context underscores the importance of close and effective cooperation to address the problem of irregular migration in a comprehensive manner, with due focus on and consideration of addressing the root causes of migration, including through job creation and the establishment of returnees' livelihoods in Afghanistan, and in accordance with international commitments and obligations, including the human rights and legal rights of all migrants and the rights of persons in need of international protection in line with the provisions of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[11] and the 1967 Protocol thereto,[12] as applicable;

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[10] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/70/12/Add.1), annex II.

[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[12] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

47. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan to making the repatriation and reintegration of Afghan refugees one of its highest national priorities, including their voluntary, safe and dignified return and their sustainable reintegration into national development planning and prioritization processes, and encourages and supports all efforts of the Government towards the implementation of this commitment;

48. *Reaffirms its firm support* for the implementation of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries endorsed by the international community in 2012, and acknowledges the Enhanced Voluntary Return and Reintegration Package for Afghan Refugees as an innovative way to enhance sustainable return and reintegration;

49. *Welcomes* the continued return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons, in a voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable manner, while noting with concern the security challenges of Afghanistan;

Regional cooperation

50. *Stresses* the crucial importance of advancing constructive regional cooperation as an effective means to promote peace, security, stability and economic and social development in Afghanistan, recognizing in this regard the importance of the contribution of neighbouring and regional partners and regional organizations, recalling the importance of the Kabul Declaration on Good-neighbourly Relations of 22 December 2002[13] and welcoming in this regard the continued commitment of the international community to support the stability and development of Afghanistan, encourages further improved relations and enhanced engagement between Afghanistan and its neighbours, calls for further efforts in this regard, including in the framework of the Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for Secure and Stable Afghanistan and by regional organizations and long-term strategic partnerships and other agreements aimed at achieving a peaceful, stable and prosperous Afghanistan, welcomes international and regional initiatives in this regard, such as those of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan process, the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and also welcomes the formation of the Quadrilateral Cooperation and Coordination Mechanism in Counter-Terrorism by Afghanistan-China-Pakistan-Tajikistan Armed Forces to coordinate and support their efforts in counter-terrorism areas;

51. *Welcomes* the important initiatives for regional connectivity, notably in the frameworks of the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan and the Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process confidence-building measures to facilitate increased trade throughout the region, and looks forward to the forthcoming Heart of Asia ministerial meeting, to be held in Amritsar, India, on 4 December 2016;

52. *Emphasizes*, in this regard, the importance of strengthening local and regional networks of transportation that will facilitate connectivity for economic development, stability and self-sustainability, particularly the completion and maintenance of local railroad and land routes, the development of regional projects

[13] S/2002/1416, annex.

to foster further connectivity and the enhancement of international civil aviation capabilities;

53. *Welcomes and urges* further efforts to strengthen the process of regional economic cooperation, including measures to facilitate regional connectivity, trade and transit, including through regional development initiatives such as "The Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road" ("The Belt and Road") Initiative, and regional development projects, such as the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project, the Central Asia South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade Project (CASA 1000), the Chabahar agreement between Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and India, the Lapis Lazuli Transit, Trade and Transport Route agreement, and the Turkmenistan-Aqina railway segment, and bilateral transit trade agreements, expanded consular visa cooperation and facilitation of business travel, to expand trade, increase foreign investments and develop infrastructure, including infrastructural connectivity, energy supply, transport and integrated border management, with a view to promoting sustainable economic growth and the creation of jobs in Afghanistan and the region, noting the historical role of Afghanistan as a land bridge in Asia, recalls that such regional economic cooperation plays an important role in achieving Afghanistan's stability and development, and in this regard urges all relevant stakeholders to ensure a secure environment for these development initiatives and trade agreements to be fully implemented;

United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board

54. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, as mandated by the Security Council in its resolution 2274 (2016), stresses the continued importance of the central and impartial coordinating role of the United Nations in promoting a more coherent international engagement, and acknowledges the central role played by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board in this regard;

55. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report every three months on developments in Afghanistan, as well as on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

56. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan".

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 36
The situation in Afghanistan

Afghanistan, Belgium, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Kuwait, Latvia, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Spain, Tajikistan, Thailand and United States of America: draft resolution

The situation in Afghanistan

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Finland, France, Greece, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 126 (i)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey and Turkmenistan: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/2 of 13 October 1993, by which it granted observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization in which it invited various specialized agencies, as well as other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and relevant financial institutions, to join in the efforts towards realizing its goals and the objectives of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Appreciating the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to strengthen its relations with the United Nations system and with relevant international and regional organizations for the development and implementation of projects and programmes in areas of common interest,

Noting the efforts made by the United Nations system and the relevant international and regional organizations in extending technical and financial assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization for the development and implementation of programmes and projects pertaining to socioeconomic progress, and encouraging them to continue their support,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 69/111 of 10 December 2014,[1] and acknowledges the growing cooperation between the two organizations;

[1] A/71/160-S/2016/621, sect. II.

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2. *Takes note* of the Baku Declaration, issued at the twelfth Economic Cooperation Organization summit meeting of Heads of State and/or Government of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, held on 16 October 2012 in Baku;[2]

3. *Appreciates* the continuing efforts to strengthen the existing cooperation between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Cooperation Organization, especially in the field of trade capacity-building of member States, notes with satisfaction the signing of the project document between the two organizations on 18 March 2014 for the implementation of the third phase of their joint programme, aimed at enhancing the capacity of member States to strengthen their standards, metrology, testing and quality infrastructure, and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies to consider supporting the implementation of the project;

4. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Trade Organization and the International Trade Centre to develop strategies for the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization for trade liberalization and the promotion of foreign direct investment to facilitate the global and regional integration of their economies;

5. *Notes* the progress made on the trade facilitation programme of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, especially the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific, to support the Organization in developing a trade facilitation agreement, single windows in the member States, the TradeNet web portal and a unified visa system for facilitating the work of the region's businesspeople and enhancing regional trade;

6. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to implement the Economic Cooperation Organization Trade Agreement for the enhancement of intraregional trade, and invites the World Trade Organization and the International Trade Centre to consider extending technical assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization for the implementation of the Trade Agreement and the development and implementation of comprehensive strategies to assist the States members of the Organization in the trade facilitation process, leading to the regional and global integration of their economies;

7. *Notes* the basic development needs of landlocked countries, including their need to overcome the limitations arising from their geographical positions, the lack of access to open seas and seaport facilities and other challenges hindering their promotion of transit transport cooperation, and invites the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and other relevant international and regional bodies to assist and cooperate with the Economic Cooperation Organization on the proposed study project of the Office and the Organization on the possibility

[2] A/67/581, annex.

of providing concessional services for landlocked countries in selected ports of transit countries of the region, within existing resources;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the approval of the railway network development plan of the Economic Cooperation Organization at the eleventh meeting of heads of railway authorities of the member States, held in Ankara in June 2012, and of the road network development plan at the sixth meeting of the Road Committee of the Transit Transport Coordination Council, held in Tehran in December 2013, and invites all the relevant international financial and specialized institutions to consider participating in the implementation of the plans, taking into account the key role played by the railway and road networks of the region as land bridges between Asia and Europe;

9. *Notes* the recommendations of the joint workshop of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe on a unified railway law, held in Ankara in June 2012, regarding the formulation of a unified law on international freight and passenger traffic by rail with a view to the facilitation of transport by rail in the region, and invites the relevant United Nations agencies to consider implementing the recommendations;

10. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Economic Commission for Europe and other institutions for the reactivation of the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention)[3] in Afghanistan, the accession of Pakistan to the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail in 2013[4] and the accession of Pakistan to the TIR Convention in 2016, and expresses its satisfaction for the test run of trucks transporting goods under cover of TIR carnets envisaged along the road transport corridor between Islamabad, Tehran and Istanbul, Turkey, with a view to the operationalization of the TIR Convention in Pakistan;

11. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to develop two road transport corridors, between Pakistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkey, and between Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, invites the relevant international and regional organizations, notably the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Islamic Development Bank and the Economic Commission for Europe, to consider participating in the fields of study, demonstration caravans and other activities envisaged in the project of the Economic Cooperation Organization to develop these corridors, within their respective mandates, and, noting the progress on development of the two road transport corridors, invites the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe to conduct a study on road safety along these corridors and to organize capacity-building programmes and training courses on road safety and security with the support of the relevant institutions, as appropriate;

12. *Encourages* the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization that have not done so to accede to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road,[5] the TIR Convention, the International

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1079, No. 16510.
[4] Ibid., vol. 1397, No. 23353.
[5] Ibid., vol. 399, No. 5742.

Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods,[6] the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road[7] and the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail,[8] and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies and other international bodies to provide the necessary support to the States members of the Organization, particularly for capacity-building activities and the holding of workshops;

13. *Invites* the Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to cooperate with the Economic Cooperation Organization for the facilitation of transit trade among the member States of the Organization and the modernization of their border crossing points;

14. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Economic Cooperation Organization to conduct a feasibility study on the need for the development of information and communications technology, infrastructure connectivity and services in the region, and invites all relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, especially the International Telecommunication Union, to consider providing, where appropriate, capacity-building and technical assistance to the Organization for the conduct and follow-up of the aforementioned study;

15. *Notes* the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization to prepare a technical assistance project proposal on the implementation of the regional programmes for food security of the Economic Cooperation Organization under the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme administered by the World Bank, and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, especially the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to consider providing technical and financial assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization for preparing and implementing detailed project proposals under the programme components suitable to the needs of the member States;

16. *Recognizes* the growing importance of tourism in the sustainable development of the region and its potential in the promotion of a sustainable economy, and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies and other organizations, especially the World Tourism Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, to consider extending financial and technical support to the Economic Cooperation Organization for the development of regional projects related to tourism promotion and to support its programmes;

17. *Takes note with appreciation* of the recent efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at underlining the special and increasing role of renewable energy in complementing conventional energy in order to support sustainable energy development, and requests the relevant United Nations agencies to consider rendering financial and technical support, as appropriate, for regional projects in the fields of energy efficiency, conservation and renewable energy;

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[6] Ibid., vol. 1409, No. 23583.

[7] Ibid., vol. 619, No. 8940.

[8] Ibid., vol. 1397, No. 23353.

18. *Takes note* of the ongoing efforts within the Economic Cooperation Organization for the establishment of a regional electricity market, and invites the United Nations and other relevant international bodies, including the Energy Charter secretariat, to extend their support to this important environment-friendly initiative;

19. *Welcomes* the idea of the development of a joint programme by the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization for sustainable energy and, as its outcome, the establishment of a regional energy centre, and calls upon the relevant United Nations agencies and international financial institutions to consider extending their financial and technical support for the development and implementation stages of this programme;

20. *Recognizes* the significance of mutual cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization in addressing the global challenges referred to in its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and emphasizes the necessity of regular cooperation between the two organizations for achieving the goals envisaged in that resolution;

21. *Appreciates* the success of the second consultative ministerial meeting on environment of the Economic Cooperation Organization, held in Nairobi in May 2016 on the sidelines of the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, and the meeting of senior officials of the Organization on the environment, held in Paris in December 2015 on the sidelines of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and invites all donor-designated agencies and the United Nations Environment Programme to consider extending financial and technical assistance for regional projects, workshops and high-level group meetings in the field of the environment;

22. *Notes with satisfaction* the success of the workshop held jointly by the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Economic Cooperation Organization in Tehran from 29 April to 1 May 2014 on harnessing climate financing for sustainable forest management in the region, and highly appreciates the key recommendation of the workshop to establish an inter-agency coordination group with the involvement of the Economic Cooperation Organization, the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Global Environment Facility, as well as the possibility of granting observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization for the meetings of the United Nations Forum on Forests to enhance interregional coordination on climate change issues, including sustainable forest management;

23. *Also notes with satisfaction* the success of the second joint workshop of the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Economic Cooperation Organization, held in Tehran from 26 to 30 October 2015, on regional capacity-building on designing projects on sustainable forest management in the region, and welcomes the meeting organized and convened jointly by the Organization and the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests to enhance the involvement of regional and subregional organizations in the development and implementation of the strategic plan of the international arrangement on forests, as well as enhancing coordination and synergy with regard to the implementation of the forest-related aspects of the

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular the forest-related Sustainable Development Goals;

24. *Appreciates* the enhanced cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and United Nations environmental agencies and the secretariats of conventions, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and welcomes the recent granting of observer status to the Organization with the United Nations Environment Programme and with the secretariats of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

25. *Highlights* the importance of enhanced cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system concerning the health-related Sustainable Development Goals, and encourages the relevant United Nations entities, especially the United Nations Development Programme, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization, to consider extending technical and financial support to the Economic Cooperation Organization in this regard, as appropriate;

26. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to enhance cooperation in the field of health in the region in collaboration with international organizations and the specialized agencies, especially the World Health Organization, the International Society of Blood Transfusion, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Population Fund, and encourages their continued support for the activities of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the field of health;

27. *Notes* the vulnerability of the member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization to natural disasters, and urges the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, including the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Development Programme, to consider expanding their cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization in the area of natural and man-made disaster risk reduction and also to consider extending their technical and financial support for the activities of the Organization in the field of natural disaster risk management in the region, including the ongoing efforts to prepare and implement the regional framework for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030[9] in the region;

[9] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

28. *Appreciates* the joint cooperation of the Economic Cooperation Organization with the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in organizing and conducting the capacity-building workshop on the compilation of quarterly national accounts for member States of the Organization in March 2015, as well as with the other United Nations subsidiary bodies in the field of statistics, and invites the Division to consider extending technical and financial support for the design and implementation of a programme for the development of statistics in the region;

29. *Highlights* the importance of high-quality statistics as a tool for the implementation of development goals and the importance of future cooperation and partnership between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Statistics Division in this regard, and encourages the Division to consider extending technical and financial support to the Organization in the field of statistics, as appropriate;

30. *Appreciates* the joint cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in conducting, in July 2016, the refresher training workshop for focal points on the CountrySTAT system, as part of the second phase of the project of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on support for the implementation and development of the CountrySTAT framework in the Economic Cooperation Organization countries;

31. *Welcomes* the joint cooperation of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Institute for Statistics of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in conducting, in December 2013, a training workshop on science, technology and innovation indicators for member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and invites the Institute to consider extending technical assistance for the development of statistical activities in the area of research and development and innovation statistics in the region;

32. *Appreciates* the efforts and activities of the Drug and Organized Crime Coordination Unit of the Economic Cooperation Organization in compiling and disseminating drug-related data, organizing workshops and training programmes aimed at enhancing the technical and professional expertise of the officials working in the relevant anti-narcotics forces and agencies of its member States, taking measures to harmonize the policies and drug-related laws and regulations of three member States, namely Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and contributing to the alternative development policies and programmes in Afghanistan, welcomes the successful completion of the European Union-funded project on the fight against trafficking from and to Afghanistan, and encourages the United Nations agencies and the donor community, such as the European Commission and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue to provide technical and financial assistance to the Organization in its efforts against drug-related and other related crimes;

33. *Acknowledges* the ongoing efforts of the member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization to strengthen regional cooperation to combat drugs and organized crime, including the establishment of a police mechanism, a regional judicial and legal cooperation mechanism and the Economic Cooperation Organization regional centre for the cooperation of anti-corruption agencies and ombudsmen, and invites the relevant organizations of the United Nations system

and other international organizations, including the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to assist and support those efforts;

34. *Appreciates* the contributions made by the Economic Cooperation Organization towards reconstruction and development in Afghanistan, commends its active participation in and constructive contributions to various regional and international initiatives on Afghanistan, especially appreciates its support for the high-level Core Group of Regional Forum Secretaries-General, established at the meeting of the regional bodies on 19 July 2010, the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan and the Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan,[10] and invites relevant United Nations agencies and other international organizations to assist the Organization in implementing its new advocacy policies and programmes developed on the basis of the outcomes of its special conference on Afghanistan, held in from 22 to 24 October 2016 in Kabul;

35. *Notes with appreciation* the activities of the Cultural Institute, the Science Foundation and the Educational Institute of the Economic Cooperation Organization as specialized arms of the Organization to foster regional cooperation among its member States in the fields of culture, science and education, respectively, and encourages the relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations system, especially the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to cooperate with these bodies, within the scope of their mandate and existing resources, in order to develop and implement appropriate projects for the promotion of science and education in the region;

36. *Stresses* that all technical and financial support should be considered in line with the relevant mandates and as appropriate;

37. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Economic Cooperation Organization as an affiliated body of the Organization, and encourages the Assembly to contribute to the strengthening of multifaceted regional cooperation in the region;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

39. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization".

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[10] A/66/601-S/2011/767, annex.

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Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Agreement between the Council of Europe and the Secretariat of the United Nations signed on 15 December 1951 and the Arrangement on Cooperation and Liaison between the Secretariats of the United Nations and the Council of Europe of 19 November 1971,

Recalling also its resolution 44/6 of 17 October 1989, in which it granted the Council of Europe a standing invitation to participate as an observer in its sessions and work, as well as its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,

Acknowledging the contribution of the Council of Europe to the protection and strengthening of human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law through its standards, principles and monitoring mechanisms, as well as to the effective implementation of relevant international legal instruments of the United Nations,

* Reissued for technical reasons on 18 November 2016.

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Acknowledging also the contribution of the Council of Europe to the development of international law, and noting the openness of the Council of Europe to the participation of States of other regions in its legal instruments,

Welcoming the role of the Council of Europe in building a united Europe without dividing lines, and the contribution of the Council of Europe to cohesion, stability and security in Europe,

Commending the increasing contribution of the Council of Europe, including at the parliamentary level, to democratic transition in its neighbouring regions aimed at promoting democratic institutions and procedures, and welcoming the readiness of the Council of Europe to further share its experience in democracy-building with interested countries on the basis of a demand-driven approach,

Welcoming the increasingly close relations between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, and commending the contribution of the Permanent Delegations of the Council of Europe to the United Nations Offices at Geneva and at Vienna to the enhancement of cooperation and the achievement of greater synergy between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,

Welcoming also the visit of the Secretary-General to the Council of Europe on 23 June 2015,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,[1]

1. *Reiterates its call* for the reinforcement of cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe regarding the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the promotion of democracy and the rule of law and good governance at all levels, inter alia, the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the fight against terrorism, trafficking in human beings and violence against women, the fight against all forms of racism, discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance, the promotion of freedom of expression and freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, the protection of the rights and dignity of all members of society without discrimination on any grounds and the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, as well as the promotion of human rights education;

2. *Confirms its recognition* of the key role of the European Court of Human Rights in ensuring effective human rights protection under the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms for the 800 million citizens in the 47 States members of the Council of Europe, and notes with interest the efforts to guarantee the long-term effectiveness of the Court system and to ensure the rapid and effective execution of Court judgments, as well as the ongoing work aiming at accession of the European Union to the Convention;

3. *Recognizes* the important role of the Council of Europe in upholding the rule of law and fighting impunity, including by strengthening the capacity of the national judiciaries of its member States to carry out their work consistent with

[1] See A/71/160-S/2016/621, sect. II.

the relevant international obligations of the member States in particular, and where applicable, those defined in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[2]

4. *Also recognizes* the role of the revised European Social Charter and of the European Committee of Social Rights in protecting economic and social rights, notes in this context the contribution that the Council of Europe can make in ensuring the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[3] and confirms its support for cooperation between the two organizations with respect to the eradication of poverty, the protection and promotion of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, including persons with disabilities in sport, strengthening social cohesion and intergenerational solidarity and ensuring the protection of economic, social and cultural rights for all;

5. *Notes* the effective implementation of a joint declaration on the reinforcement of cooperation between the secretariat of the Council of Europe and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and in this respect encourages further cooperation between the United Nations, including the Human Rights Council, its special procedures, the Office of the High Commissioner and the human rights treaty bodies, and the Council of Europe, along with its Commissioner for Human Rights, with regard to promoting and ensuring respect for human rights and the role of human rights defenders;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the enhancement of cooperation between international and regional mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights, and in this context welcomes, in particular, the contribution of the Council of Europe to the universal periodic review regarding the situation of human rights in States members of the Council of Europe, and the adoption of a declaration supporting the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[4] as well as the adoption of the recommendation on human rights and business by the Council of Europe on 2 March 2016;

7. *Encourages* further cooperation, where appropriate, between the United Nations and the Council of Europe through their mechanisms on the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, takes note of the participation by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in the revision of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners,[5] and supports the further development of cooperation in the penitentiary field with regard to combating prison overcrowding;

8. *Encourages* the Council of Europe to continue cooperation with the United Nations in the fight against trafficking in persons, recalls that the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings is open for accession by all States, and notes with interest the results of the monitoring

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[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[3] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[4] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

[5] *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, Volume I (First Part), *Universal Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIV.4 (Vol. I, Part 1)), sect. J, No. 34.

activities carried out by the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and by the Committee of the Parties to the Convention;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs, as a follow-up to the joint Council of Europe/United Nations study on trafficking in organs, tissues and cells and trafficking in human beings for the purpose of the removal of organs, encourages further cooperation in this field, and recalls in this respect that the Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs is open for accession by all States;

10. *Welcomes and encourages* the enhancing of the close collaboration between the United Nations Children's Fund, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Council of Europe to protect and promote the rights of the child, takes note of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2016-2021), launched in Sofia, promoting the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[6] in its member States, and recalls in this context that the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse is open for accession by all States;

11. *Welcomes* the reinforced action of the Council of Europe to promote the social inclusion and respect for human rights of the Roma, and encourages further cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in this field;

12. *Also welcomes* the regular and active contribution of the Council of Europe to the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the agreed and specified cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), which includes support to member States, upon their request, in implementing commitments on gender equality and women's human rights, in particular access to justice and women's political participation, and the promotion of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2017, takes note of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, which is open for accession by all States, in this context encourages the above-mentioned bodies to continue to develop a fruitful collaboration in eliminating violence against women, including with the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences and the achievement of de facto gender equality, and recognizes the important contribution of the Convention in eradicating this scourge;

13. *Encourages* continuing cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Council of Europe, including the Council of Europe Development Bank, in particular in the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms of refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, as enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights, and in the prevention and reduction of statelessness, welcomes, in the context of the ongoing large movements of refugees and migrants, the adoption of

[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants[7] and encourages activities identifying durable solutions for refugees, including facilitating integration through education and the creation of employment opportunities, takes note of the nomination of a Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe for migration and refugees, and recognizes the importance of the interface offered by the presence at the Council of Europe of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg, as well as by the Permanent Delegation of the Council of Europe to the United Nations Office at Geneva;

14. *Recognizes and encourages* the continuing close liaison and fruitful cooperation between United Nations missions and the Council of Europe offices in the field;

15. *Encourages* further cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in the area of democracy and good governance, including through active participation in the Strasbourg World Forum for Democracy and engagement with youth representatives and civil society, as appropriate, and the strengthening of the links between the World Programme for Human Rights Education and the Council of Europe project on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights, and in this context welcomes the contribution to the activities of the International Contact Group on citizenship and human rights education;

16. *Notes* the important role of the United Nations Development Programme and the Council of Europe in supporting good local democratic governance, as well as the fruitful cooperation between them, encourages further deepening of the cooperation following the signature in February 2010 of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau for Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Council of Europe in this field, and calls for enhanced cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in the field of sustainable urban governance;

17. *Also notes* the contribution of the Council of Europe in protecting and promoting all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to freedom of expression and opinion and the freedom of the media, encourages further cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations in this regard, in particular with regard to the implementation of the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, and in this context further notes the setting-up by the Council of Europe of a platform to promote the protection of journalism and the safety of journalists;

18. *Reaffirms* that, as the information society and the Internet develop, freedom of expression, as well as the right to privacy, as set out in article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[8] must be protected and respected, including as they relate to data protection, while recognizing lawful restrictions as set out in national legislation in accordance with international human rights law, acknowledges the importance of the work of the Council of Europe in protecting those rights, welcomes and encourages the cooperation between relevant

[7] Resolution 71/1.

[8] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

United Nations agencies and special procedures of the Human Rights Council, including the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy, and the Council of Europe, most notably with regard to the follow-up to General Assembly resolution 70/125 of 16 December 2015 on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, in particular in promoting greater multi-stakeholder participation and engagement in dialogue on Internet governance at the global, regional and national levels, takes note of the Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data, which is open for accession by all States, and recalls Assembly resolution 69/166 of 18 December 2014;

19. *Welcomes and encourages* the close cooperation between the two organizations in the fight against transnational organized crime, cybercrime, terrorism and money-laundering, as well as in the protection of the rights of victims of such crimes, and recalls that the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime and the Additional Protocol thereto, concerning the criminalization of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems, and the Council of Europe Convention on the Counterfeiting of Medical Products and Similar Crimes Involving Threats to Public Health, as well as several other relevant Council of Europe conventions, are open for accession by all States;

20. *Welcomes and supports* the cooperation between the respective mechanisms concerning the prevention of and the fight against corruption, notably by reviewing and mutually reinforcing the implementation of international anti-corruption standards, and notes the Council of Europe conference entitled "Strengthening judicial independence and impartiality as a precondition for the rule of law in Council of Europe member States", held in Sofia on 21 and 22 April 2016, and the action plan adopted at the conference;

21. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Council of Europe to the promotion of the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy[9] and the collaboration between their respective mechanisms regarding the fight against terrorism, including the financing of terrorism, in full respect of human rights and the rule of law, acknowledges the contribution of the Council of Europe to the implementation of Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) of 24 September 2014 on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts through the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism, and recalls that the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism, including its Additional Protocol, and the Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism are open for accession by all States;

22. *Also welcomes* the continued cooperation of the Council of Europe, where appropriate and in accordance with international drug control conventions, with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board in the fight against drug abuse and drug trafficking, and notes the role played by the Pompidou Group in this regard;

23. *Further welcomes* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly and the International Law Commission;

[9] Resolution 60/288.

24. *Notes* the cooperation established between the Alliance of Civilizations and the Council of Europe following their signature of a memorandum of understanding on 29 September 2008 and the accession of the Alliance of Civilizations to the Faro Platform, encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Alliance of Civilizations on the one hand, and the Council of Europe and its North-South Centre on the other, to pursue their developing and fruitful collaboration in the field of intercultural dialogue, and takes note of the adoption of guidelines on the protection and promotion of human rights in culturally diverse societies by the Council of Europe in 2016;

25. *Also notes* the cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the field of education, and encourages the extension of this cooperation, which should continue to focus on the role of education in developing just and humane societies characterized by the participation of individuals and the ability of individuals and societies to conduct intercultural dialogue, as well as on the encouragement of the diversity of cultural expressions;

26. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the Council of Europe, the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Development Programme on the organization of the first Global Forum on Youth Policies, which took place in Azerbaijan in October 2014, and encourages those organizations to continue their cooperation to promote and implement the Baku Commitment to Youth Policies as a contribution to the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth;[10]

27. *Notes* the Council of Europe "No Hate Speech" movement, launched as a youth campaign against hate speech and for human rights online, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its cooperation with the Council of Europe on this theme;

28. *Invites* the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Council of Europe to combine their efforts in seeking answers to global challenges, within their respective mandates, including, in particular, in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[11] and calls upon all relevant United Nations bodies to support the enhancement of cooperation with the Council of Europe, as set out in relevant resolutions;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in the implementation of the present resolution.

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[10] Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

[11] Resolution 70/1.

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 126 (l)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Armenia and Mexico

16-21021 (E) 301116

Please recycle

United Nations A/71/L.16*

General Assembly

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 126 (o)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

Albania, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/5 of 8 October 1999, by which it granted observer status to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, as well as its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, including resolution 69/13 of 11 November 2014,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social or humanitarian nature,

Recalling further the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" and its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,

Recalling its Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security of 9 December 1994,[1]

* Reissued for technical reasons on 18 November 2016.

[1] Resolution 49/57, annex.

Please recycle

Recognizing that any dispute or conflict in the region impedes cooperation, and stressing the need to solve such a dispute or conflict on the basis of the norms and principles of international law,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 69/13,[2]

1. *Recalls* the Declaration adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization on the occasion of the Twentieth Anniversary Summit of the Organization, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 26 June 2012;

2. *Reiterates* the conviction that multilateral economic cooperation contributes to enhancing peace, stability and security to the benefit of the wider Black Sea area;

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to the implementation of its economic agenda, "Towards an enhanced Black Sea Economic Cooperation Partnership", endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Organization at its Twentieth Anniversary Summit, in which the member States reiterated their commitment to enhancing the economic mission and the project-oriented vision of the Organization;

4. *Values* the activities of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in such fields as energy, including renewable energy and energy efficiency, transport, institutional renewal and good governance, trade and economic development, banking and finance, environmental protection, sustainable development and entrepreneurship, communications, agriculture and agro-industry, health care and pharmaceutics, culture, education, youth and sports, tourism, science and technology, exchange of statistical data and economic information, collaboration among customs authorities and combating organized crime and trafficking in drugs, weapons and radioactive material, acts of terrorism and illegal migration and in other related spheres;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to elaborate and realize concrete joint regional projects, particularly in the field of transport, which will contribute to the development of Euro-Asian transport links, and recalls, within this framework, the Memorandum of Understanding for the Coordinated Development of the Black Sea Ring Highway, the Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of Motorways of the Sea in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Region and the Memorandum of Understanding on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Region;

6. *Appeals* for greater cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and international financial institutions, and welcomes the

[2] See A/71/160-S/2016/621, sect. II.

contacts between the Organization and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the Silk Road Fund with a view to exploring the possibility of co-financing projects in the wider Black Sea area that are economically prudent and within their respective mandates;

7. *Acknowledges* the interest of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the importance of the regional and subregional dimensions, regional economic integration and interconnectivity in sustainable development and that regional and subregional frameworks can facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at the national level;

8. *Notes* the contributions of the bodies related to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, namely, the Parliamentary Assembly, the Business Council, the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank and the International Centre for Black Sea Studies, to the strengthening of multifaceted regional cooperation in the region;

9. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to promoting fruitful cooperation with the United Nations and the specialized agencies, in particular to developing practical and goal-oriented projects, in areas of common interest, as reiterated in the economic agenda endorsed at the Twentieth Anniversary Summit of the Organization;

10. *Also welcomes* the cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Europe, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Health Organization, the World Tourism Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as the working contacts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization with the World Bank aimed at promoting sustainable development in the Black Sea region;

11. *Welcomes* the capacity-building efforts within the Permanent International Secretariat of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the establishment of the Project Management Unit to develop and implement regional projects for the sustainable development of the Black Sea region, as well as the initiative to establish a project promotion facility focusing on the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency, green technologies, developing small and medium-sized enterprises, improving regional and municipal infrastructure and increasing the export potential of the States of the region;

12. *Notes* the willingness of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to continue to implement sustainable development strategies based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activities and environmental protection;

13. *Also notes* the efforts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to take measures to rehabilitate, protect and preserve the environment

in the Black Sea region, and in this regard welcomes its cooperation with the World Wide Fund for Nature;

14. *Further notes* the cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and within this framework welcomes the positive results of the ongoing joint project to strengthen the criminal justice response to trafficking in persons in the Black Sea region, launched on 1 September 2007;

15. *Welcomes* the multifaceted and fruitful cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe, especially in the area of transport, within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement signed by the two organizations on 2 July 2001;

16. *Encourages* the full implementation of the Cooperation Agreement between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme of 20 February 2002 and the Relationship Agreement between the Organization and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization of 8 September 1997;

17. *Notes* that the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization is a member of the Group of Friends of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, and welcomes the commitment to broaden cooperation in the accomplishment of the mission of the Alliance, as established by the Secretary-General, and in the promotion of understanding and reconciliation among cultures, globally and regionally, as set out in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, which was approved in Bucharest and signed in Baku;

18. *Also notes* the potential for cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the European Union in the interest of realizing the Organization's goals beneficial to both sides;

19. *Further notes* the cooperation established between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and other regional organizations and initiatives;

20. *Invites* the Secretary-General to strengthen dialogue with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization with a view to promoting cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the two organizations;

21. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in order to continue programmes with the Organization and its associated institutions for the achievement of their objectives;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization".

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Agenda item 126 (o)

Albania, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine: revised draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/5 of 8 October 1999, by which it granted observer status to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, as well as its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, including resolution 69/13 of 11 November 2014,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social or humanitarian nature,

Recalling further the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" and its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,

Recalling its Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security of 9 December 1994,[1]

Recognizing that any dispute or conflict in the region impedes cooperation, and stressing the need to solve such a dispute or conflict on the basis of the norms and principles of international law,

[1] Resolution 49/57, annex.

Please recycle

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 69/13,[2]

1. *Recalls* the Declaration adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization on the occasion of the Twentieth Anniversary Summit of the Organization, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 26 June 2012;

2. *Reiterates* the conviction that multilateral economic cooperation contributes to enhancing peace, stability and security to the benefit of the wider Black Sea area;

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to the implementation of its economic agenda, "Towards an enhanced Black Sea Economic Cooperation Partnership", endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Organization at its Twentieth Anniversary Summit, in which the member States reiterated their commitment to enhancing the economic mission and the project-oriented vision of the Organization;

4. *Values* the activities of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in such fields as energy, including renewable energy and energy efficiency, transport, institutional renewal and good governance, trade and economic development, banking and finance, environmental protection, sustainable development and entrepreneurship, communications, agriculture and agro-industry, health care and pharmaceutics, culture, education, youth and sports, tourism, science and technology, exchange of statistical data and economic information, collaboration among customs authorities and combating organized crime and trafficking in drugs, weapons and radioactive material, acts of terrorism and illegal migration and in other related spheres;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to elaborate and realize concrete joint regional projects, particularly in the field of transport, which will contribute to the development of Euro-Asian transport links, and recalls, within this framework, the Memorandum of Understanding for the Coordinated Development of the Black Sea Ring Highway, the Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of Motorways of the Sea in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Region and the Memorandum of Understanding on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Region;

6. *Appeals* for greater cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and international financial institutions, and welcomes the contacts between the Organization and the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the Silk Road Fund and other financial institutions with a view to exploring the possibility of co-financing

[2] See A/71/160-S/2016/621, sect. II.

projects in the wider Black Sea area that are economically prudent and within their respective mandates;

7. *Acknowledges* the interest of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the importance of the regional and subregional dimensions, regional economic integration and interconnectivity in sustainable development and that regional and subregional frameworks can facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at the national level;

8. *Notes* the contributions of the bodies related to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, namely, the Parliamentary Assembly, the Business Council, the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank and the International Centre for Black Sea Studies, to the strengthening of multifaceted regional cooperation in the region;

9. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to promoting fruitful cooperation with the United Nations and the specialized agencies, in particular to developing practical and goal-oriented projects, in areas of common interest, as reiterated in the economic agenda endorsed at the Twentieth Anniversary Summit of the Organization;

10. *Also welcomes* the cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Europe, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Health Organization, the World Tourism Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as the working contacts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization with the World Bank aimed at promoting sustainable development in the Black Sea region;

11. *Welcomes* the capacity-building efforts within the Permanent International Secretariat of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the establishment of the Project Management Unit to develop and implement regional projects for the sustainable development of the Black Sea region, as well as the initiative to establish a project promotion facility focusing on the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency, green technologies, developing small and medium-sized enterprises, improving regional and municipal infrastructure and increasing the export potential of the States of the region;

12. *Notes* the willingness of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to continue to implement sustainable development strategies based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activities and environmental protection;

13. *Also notes* the efforts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to take measures to rehabilitate, protect and preserve the environment in the Black Sea region, and in this regard welcomes its cooperation with the World Wide Fund for Nature;

14. *Further notes* the cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and within this framework welcomes the positive results of the ongoing joint project to strengthen the criminal justice response to trafficking in persons in the Black Sea region, launched on 1 September 2007;

15. *Welcomes* the multifaceted and fruitful cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe, especially in the area of transport, within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement signed by the two organizations on 2 July 2001;

16. *Encourages* the full implementation of the Cooperation Agreement between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme of 20 February 2002 and the Relationship Agreement between the Organization and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization of 8 September 1997;

17. *Notes* that the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization is a member of the Group of Friends of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, and welcomes the commitment to broaden cooperation in the accomplishment of the mission of the Alliance, as established by the Secretary-General, and in the promotion of understanding and reconciliation among cultures, globally and regionally, as set out in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, which was approved in Bucharest and signed in Baku;

18. *Also notes* the potential for cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the European Union in the interest of realizing the Organization's goals beneficial to both sides;

19. *Further notes* the cooperation established between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and other regional organizations and initiatives;

20. *Invites* the Secretary-General to strengthen dialogue with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization with a view to promoting cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the two organizations;

21. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in order to continue programmes with the Organization and its associated institutions for the achievement of their objectives;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization".

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 126 (o)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

Albania, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine: revised draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Austria, Hungary, Montenegro and Spain

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Please recycle

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General Assembly

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 126
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations

Australia, Brazil, Croatia, Estonia, France, Germany, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Montenegro, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand and Tunisia: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/1 of 22 October 1996, in which it invited the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to participate as an observer in its sessions and work,

Recalling also the cooperation agreement of 1997 between the United Nations and INTERPOL and all other relevant cooperation agreements between them,

Recalling further all relevant United Nations resolutions recognizing that cooperation between the United Nations and international organizations, such as INTERPOL can contribute to tackling terrorism, including preventing foreign terrorist fighter travel, and combating transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime, including smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, drug trafficking, intentional and unlawful destruction of cultural heritage and trafficking in cultural property, piracy, illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, illicit trafficking in nuclear, biological, chemical and radiological materials, cybercrime, corruption and money-laundering and crimes that affect the environment, such as illicit trafficking in wildlife,

Acknowledging the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in assisting the States Members of the United Nations that are also member countries of INTERPOL in preventing and responding to crime and in improving their law enforcement capabilities, upon their request,

Recognizing that INTERPOL is an apolitical and neutral international organization entrusted with the mandate of ensuring and promoting mutual assistance among criminal police authorities, in full respect of the sovereignty of Member States

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and consistent with the national laws and regulations of each Member State, and in accordance with the rules and regulations of INTERPOL,

Acknowledging that INTERPOL has been a key actor since 1923 in enabling and promoting international police cooperation in order to prevent and combat transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime, through enhanced police cooperation among its member countries and innovation in police and law enforcement matters,

Acknowledging also the contributions derived from the global structure of the General Secretariat of INTERPOL, consisting of its seat in Lyon, France, its seven regional bureaux around the world, its Offices of the Special Representative at the United Nations, the European Union and the African Union and its Global Complex for Innovation,

Welcoming the role of the national central bureaux of INTERPOL, present in every member country, as the cornerstone of cooperation to enhance cohesion, stability and security and as the primary international policing hub, which links national police forces through its global network,

Noting the cooperation and coordination efforts undertaken in accordance with existing arrangements between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and INTERPOL,

Recognizing the contribution of the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL, through the fight against all forms of transnational crime, towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1]

Welcoming the cooperation between the United Nations counter-terrorism entities and INTERPOL in preventing and countering terrorism by assisting Member States, upon their request, in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[2] including through information-sharing on foreign terrorist fighters and improvements in border security,

Noting the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in assisting Member States, upon their request, in tackling the illicit trafficking of nuclear, biological, chemical and radiological materials by non-State actors,

Convinced that increased and enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the constitution of INTERPOL, as well as applicable international law, will contribute to achieving the respective purposes and principles of both organizations,

1. *Calls* for the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL, within their respective mandates, in tackling terrorism, including preventing foreign terrorist fighter travel, and combating transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime, including smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, drug trafficking, intentional and unlawful destruction of cultural heritage and trafficking in cultural property, piracy, illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, illicit trafficking in nuclear, biological, chemical and radiological

[1] Resolution 70/1.
[2] Resolution 60/288.

materials, cybercrime, corruption and money-laundering and crimes that affect the environment, such as illicit trafficking in wildlife;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of optimal coordination and cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL to create synergies within their respective mandates in the fight against transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime;

3. *Encourages* increased cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL to assist Member States, upon their request, in effectively using the following resources readily available to Member States that are also member countries of INTERPOL, through their national central bureaux:

(a) The INTERPOL I-24/7 global police secure communications system, which enables authorized users to share sensitive and urgent police information with their counterparts around the globe;

(b) INTERPOL databases, by populating them, as appropriate, with a view to sharing information with foreign counterparts in full respect of national sovereignty and operational priorities, through full access to them;

(c) Publication of INTERPOL notices and diffusions to alert and request assistance from foreign law enforcement;

(d) Criminal information analysis, namely, INTERPOL analytical products, to support national operational activities and investigations;

(e) INTERPOL training and capacity-building programmes and initiatives designed to improve national police capabilities;

4. *Acknowledges* the importance of extending real-time access to the I-24/7 global police secure communications system from the national central bureaux of Member States that are also member countries of INTERPOL to their other national law enforcement entities at strategic locations, such as border crossings, airports and customs and immigration posts, with a view to, inter alia, promoting increased cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL".

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General Assembly

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 126
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations

Australia, Brazil, Croatia, Estonia, France, Germany, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Montenegro, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand and Tunisia: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Cyprus, Czechia, Georgia, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and Uruguay

16-21023 (E) 301116

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General Assembly

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18 November 2016

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 35
Question of Palestine

Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine: draft resolution

Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its emergency special sessions and its resolution 70/12 of 24 November 2015,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[1]

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

Affirming its support for a comprehensive, just, lasting and peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session[2] and the Quartet road map to a permanent

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/71/35).
[2] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

Please recycle

two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, endorsed by the Security Council in resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003,[3]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[4] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Taking note of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,[5]

Recalling its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012, by which, inter alia, Palestine was accorded non-member observer State status in the United Nations, and taking note of the follow-up report of the Secretary-General,[6]

Taking note of the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions, as well as other international treaties,

Noting with deep regret the onset of the fiftieth year of the Israeli occupation, and stressing the urgent need for efforts to reverse the negative trends on the ground and to restore a political horizon for advancing and accelerating meaningful negotiations aimed at the achievement of a peace agreement that will bring a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and the resolution of all core final status issues, without exception, leading to a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive solution of the question of Palestine,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly, and takes note of its annual report,[1] including the conclusions and valuable recommendations contained in chapter VII thereof;

2. *Requests* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, to support the achievement without delay of an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and of the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders and the just resolution of all final status issues and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people, and in this regard authorizes the Committee to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and thereafter;

3. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to

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[3] S/2003/529, annex.
[4] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.
[5] A/66/371-S/2011/592, annex I.
[6] A/67/738.

the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Secretary-General, as appropriate;

4. *Further requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other civil society organizations and to continue to involve additional civil society organizations and parliamentarians in its work in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the Palestinian people, particularly during this critical period of political instability, humanitarian hardship and financial crisis, with the overall aim of promoting the achievement by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights and a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[2] and the Quartet road map;[3]

5. *Commends* the efforts and activities of the Committee in upholding its mandate, including through cooperative initiatives with Governments, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations;

6. *Also commends* the efforts of the Working Group of the Committee in coordinating the efforts of international and regional civil society organizations regarding the question of Palestine;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation that they have at their disposal;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation and support to the Committee in the performance of its tasks, recalling its repeated call for all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to compile a report to the General Assembly, pursuant to resolution 69/20, on the economic costs of the Israeli occupation for the Palestinian people, and, while drawing attention to the alarming findings, as reflected in the recent report on United Nations Conference on Trade and Development assistance to the Palestinian people: developments in the economy of the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[4] calls for the exertion of all efforts for the provision of necessary resources to expedite completion of the report, including the facilitation and coordination of pertinent inputs from the relevant organs, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

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[4] UNCTAD/APP/2016/1.

11. *Requests* the Committee, in the light of the onset of the fiftieth year of the Israeli occupation, to focus its activities throughout 2017 on efforts and initiatives to end the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and to organize activities in this regard, within existing resources and in cooperation with Governments, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations, aimed at raising international awareness and mobilizing efforts as a contribution towards the achievement of a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful solution to the question of Palestine in all its aspects;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the facilities necessary for the performance of its tasks.

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Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[1]

Taking note, in particular, of the action taken by the Committee and the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat in accordance with their mandates,

Recalling its resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including its resolution 70/13 of 24 November 2015,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 70/13;

2. *Considers* that, by providing substantive support to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in the implementation of its mandate, the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a most useful and constructive contribution to raising international awareness of the question of Palestine and of the urgency of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine in all its aspects on the basis of international law and United Nations resolutions and the efforts being exerted in this regard and to generating international support for the rights of the Palestinian people;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to effectively carry out its

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/71/35).

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programme of work as detailed in relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee and under its guidance;

4. *Requests* the Division, in particular, to continue to monitor developments relevant to the question of Palestine, to organize international meetings and activities in support of the Committee's mandate with the participation of all sectors of the international community and to ensure, within existing resources, the continued participation of eminent persons and international renowned experts in these meetings and activities, to be invited on a par with the members of the Committee, to liaise and cooperate with civil society and parliamentarians, including through the Working Group of the Committee and its associated "UN Platform for Palestine", to develop and expand the "Question of Palestine" website and the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, to prepare and widely disseminate the publications listed in paragraph 79 of the report of the Committee,[1] in the relevant official languages of the United Nations, and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine and to develop and enhance the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Government in contribution to Palestinian capacity-building efforts;

5. *Also requests* the Division, as part of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 29 November, to continue to organize, under the guidance of the Committee, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights or a cultural event in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the United Nations, and encourages Member States to continue to give the widest support and publicity to the observance of the Day of Solidarity;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation with the Division of the United Nations system entities with programme components addressing various aspects of the question of Palestine and the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

7. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Division in the performance of its tasks.

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Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Mali and Viet Nam

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Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[1]

Taking note, in particular, of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

Recalling its resolution 70/14 of 24 November 2015,

Convinced that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of civil society organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and independence, and for the efforts to achieve a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides,

Affirming its support for a comprehensive, just, lasting and peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/71/35).

16-20551 (E) 221116

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Arab States at its fourteenth session,[2] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, endorsed by the Security Council in resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003,[3]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[4]

Taking note of its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with resolution 70/14;

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of peace efforts and should receive the necessary support for the fulfilment of its tasks;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme for 2017-2018, in particular:

(a) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine and peace efforts, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations, as well as on the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy vis-à-vis the objective of peace;

(b) To continue to issue, update and modernize publications and audiovisual and online materials on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning relevant recent developments, in particular the efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

(c) To expand its collection of audiovisual material on the question of Palestine, to continue the production and preservation of such material and to update, on a periodic basis, the public exhibit on the question of Palestine displayed in the General Assembly Building as well as at United Nations headquarters in Geneva and Vienna;

(d) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel;

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[2] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[3] S/2003/529, annex.

[4] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

(e) To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists aimed in particular at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine and peace efforts and at enhancing dialogue and understanding between Palestinians and Israelis for the promotion of a peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including by fostering and encouraging the contribution of the media in support of peace between the two sides;

(f) To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular through its annual training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists;

4. *Encourages* the Department to formulate ways for the media and representatives of civil society to engage in open and positive discussions to explore means for encouraging people-to-people dialogue and promoting peace and mutual understanding in the region.

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Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution

Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia and Mali

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Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Recalling further relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, 1544 (2004) of 19 May 2004 and 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008,

Recalling the affirmation by the Security Council of the vision of a region where two States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognized borders,

Noting with concern that it has been 69 years since the adoption of its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and 49 years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, in 1967,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 70/15 of 24 November 2015,[1]

Reaffirming the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in accordance with international law and relevant resolutions,

[1] A/70/354-S/2015/677

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Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[2] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Convinced that achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of comprehensive and lasting peace and stability in the Middle East,

Stressing that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[3] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, and reiterating the importance of maintaining and strengthening international peace founded upon freedom, equality, justice and respect for fundamental human rights and of developing friendly relations among nations irrespective of their political, economic and social systems or the level of their development,

Noting with deep regret the onset of the fiftieth year of the Israeli occupation, and stressing the urgent need for efforts to reverse the negative trends on the ground and to restore a political horizon for advancing and accelerating meaningful negotiations aimed at the achievement of a peace agreement that will bring a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and the resolution of all core final status issues, without exception, leading to a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive solution of the question of Palestine,

Reaffirming the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

Expressing grave concern about the extremely detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including on the contiguity, integrity and viability of the Territory, the viability of the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders and the efforts to advance a peaceful settlement in the Middle East,

Expressing grave concern also about all acts of violence, intimidation and provocation by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians, including children, and properties, including homes, mosques, churches and agricultural lands, condemning acts of terror by several extremist Israeli settlers, and calling for accountability for the illegal actions perpetrated in this regard,

Reaffirming the illegality of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem, including settlement construction and expansion, home demolitions, evictions of Palestinian residents, excavations in and around religious and historic

[2] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

sites, and all other unilateral measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the city and of the Territory as a whole, and demanding their immediate cessation,

Expressing its grave concern about tensions, provocations and incitement regarding the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif, and urging restraint and respect for the sanctity of the holy sites by all sides,

Reaffirming that the construction by Israel, the occupying Power, of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime are contrary to international law,

Encouraging all States and international organizations to continue to actively pursue policies to ensure respect for their obligations under international law with regard to all illegal Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly Israeli settlements,

Expressing deep concern about the continuing Israeli policies of closures and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian and economic, via the imposition of prolonged closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, as well as of checkpoints and a permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Expressing deep concern also about the consequent negative impact of such policies on the contiguity of the Territory and the critical socioeconomic and humanitarian situation of the Palestinian people, which remains a disastrous humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip, as well as on the efforts aimed at rehabilitating and developing the damaged Palestinian economy, including reviving the agricultural and productive sectors, while taking note of developments regarding the situation of access there based on the trilateral agreement facilitated by the United Nations in this regard and on the resumption of some trade from Gaza to the West Bank for the first time since 2007, and, while recalling Security Council resolution 1860 (2009), calling for the full lifting of restrictions on the movement and access of persons and goods, taking into account the Agreement on Movement and Access of November 2005, including exports, which are crucial for social and economic recovery,

Recalling the mutual recognition 22 years ago between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[1] and stressing the urgent need for efforts to ensure full compliance with the agreements concluded between the two sides,

Recalling also the endorsement by the Security Council, in its resolution 1515 (2003), of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict[2] and the call in Council resolution 1850 (2008) for the parties to fulfil their obligations under the road map and to refrain from any steps that could undermine confidence or prejudice the outcome of negotiations on a final peace settlement,

[1] See A/48/486-S/26560, annex.
[2] S/2003/529, annex.

Stressing the road map obligation upon Israel to freeze settlement activity, including so-called "natural growth", and to dismantle all settlement outposts erected since March 2001,

Recalling the Arab Peace Initiative, adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002, and stressing its importance in the efforts to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace,[6]

Urging renewed and coordinated efforts by the international community aimed at restoring a political horizon and advancing and accelerating the conclusion of a peace treaty to attain without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 by resolving all outstanding issues, including all core issues, without exception, for a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, in accordance with the internationally recognized basis of the two-State solution, and ultimately of the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole for the realization of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East,

Welcoming in this regard the initiative launched by France aimed at mobilizing international support for Palestinian-Israeli peace and convening an international peace conference, the ongoing efforts of the Quartet in the recent period to address the unsustainable situation on the ground and to promote meaningful negotiations and the ongoing regional efforts to advance the Arab Peace Initiative, as well as the respective efforts by Egypt and the Russian Federation,

Taking note of the joint communiqué, issued on 3 June 2016 at the Paris ministerial meeting, reaffirming the commitment to the two-State solution and a just, lasting and comprehensive resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and calling, inter alia, for efforts to support the efforts of the parties to advance the prospects for peace,

Taking note also of the report of the Quartet of 1 July 2016,[7] and stressing its recommendations as well as its recent statements, including those of 30 September 2015, 23 October 2015, 12 February 2016 and 23 September 2016, in which, inter alia, grave concerns were expressed that current trends on the ground are steadily eroding the two-State solution and entrenching a one-State reality and in which recommendations were made to reverse those trends in order to advance the two-State solution on the ground and create the conditions for successful final status negotiations,

Reiterating support for the convening of an international conference in Moscow, as envisioned by the Security Council in its resolution 1850 (2008) and the Quartet statement of 23 September 2011, for the advancement and acceleration of the peace efforts towards the fulfilment of its stated objectives,

Noting the important contribution to peace efforts of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, including within the framework of the activities of the Quartet and with regard to the recent trilateral agreement regarding the Gaza Strip,

[6] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[7] S/2016/595, annex.

Welcoming the ongoing efforts of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, under the chairmanship of Norway, and noting its recent meeting at United Nations Headquarters, on 19 September 2016, and the ongoing efforts to generate sufficient donor support in this critical period for urgently addressing the immense humanitarian, reconstruction and recovery needs in the Gaza Strip, bearing in mind the detailed needs assessment and recovery framework for Gaza developed with the support of the United Nations, the World Bank and the European Union, and furthering Palestinian economic recovery and development,

Recognizing the efforts being undertaken by the Palestinian Government, with international support, to reform, develop and strengthen its institutions and infrastructure, emphasizing the need to preserve and further develop Palestinian institutions and infrastructure, despite the obstacles presented by the ongoing Israeli occupation, and commending in this regard the ongoing efforts to develop the institutions of an independent Palestinian State, including through the implementation of the Palestinian National Policy Agenda: National Priorities, Policies and Interventions (2017-2022),

Expressing concern about the risks posed to the significant achievements made, as confirmed by the positive assessments made by international institutions regarding readiness for statehood, including by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations and the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, owing to the negative impact of the current instability and financial crisis being faced by the Palestinian Government and the continued absence of a credible political horizon,

Recognizing the positive contribution of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, which is aimed, inter alia, at enhancing development support and assistance to the Palestinian people and strengthening institutional capacity in line with Palestinian national priorities,

Urging the full disbursement of pledges made at the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, on 12 October 2014, for expediting the provision of humanitarian assistance and the reconstruction process,

Welcoming the ministerial meetings of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development convened in Tokyo in February 2013 and Jakarta in March 2014 as a forum for the mobilization of political and economic assistance, including via exchanges of expertise and lessons learned, in support of Palestinian development, and encouraging the expansion of such efforts and support in the light of worsening socioeconomic indicators,

Recognizing the continued efforts and tangible progress made in the Palestinian security sector, noting the continued cooperation that benefits both Palestinians and Israelis, in particular by promoting security and building confidence, and expressing the hope that such progress will be extended to all major population centres,

Recognizing also that security measures alone cannot remedy the tensions, instability and violence, and calling for full respect for international law, including for the protection of civilian life, as well as the promotion of human security, the de-escalation of the situation, the exercise of restraint, including from provocative

actions and rhetoric, and the establishment of a stable environment conducive to the pursuit of peace,

Gravely concerned over the negative developments that have continued to occur in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including the escalation of violence and any excessive use of force, resulting in a large number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, including children and women, as well as the continued construction and expansion of settlements and the wall, the arbitrary arrest and detention of more Palestinian civilians, the acts of violence, vandalism and brutality committed against Palestinian civilians by Israeli settlers in the West Bank, the widespread destruction of public and private Palestinian property, including religious sites, and infrastructure and the demolition of homes, including if carried out as a means of collective punishment, the internal forced displacement of civilians, especially among the Bedouin community, and the consequent deterioration of the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian people,

Deploring the conflict in and around the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014 and the civilian casualties caused, including the killing and injury of thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children, women and the elderly, and the widespread destruction of thousands of homes and civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, water, sanitation and electricity networks, economic, industrial and agricultural properties, public institutions, religious sites and United Nations schools and facilities, as well as the internal displacement of hundreds of thousands of civilians and any violations of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, in this regard,

Taking note of the report and findings of the independent commission of inquiry established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-21/1,[8] and stressing the need to ensure accountability for all violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in order to end impunity, ensure justice, deter further violations, protect civilians and promote peace,

Expressing grave concern over the persisting disastrous humanitarian situation and socioeconomic conditions in the Gaza Strip as a result of the prolonged Israeli closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade and the continuing negative repercussions of the military operations in the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014, in November 2012 and between December 2008 and January 2009, particularly as a result of the widespread destruction and trauma inflicted and delays in reconstruction and recovery,

Expressing grave concern also about the lasting consequences of such conflicts on the civilian population and the living conditions in the Gaza Strip, as reflected in numerous reports, including the report of 26 August 2016 of the United Nations country team, entitled, "Gaza: two years after", and stressing that the situation is unsustainable and that urgent efforts are required to reverse the de-development trajectory in Gaza and respond adequately and immediately to the humanitarian needs of the civilian population,

[8] A/HRC/S-21/2.

Recalling the statement of the President of the Security Council of 28 July 2014,[a]

Stressing the need for calm and restraint by the parties, including by consolidating the ceasefire agreement of 26 August 2014, achieved under the auspices of Egypt, to avert the deterioration of the situation,

Reiterating the need for the full implementation by all parties of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009 and General Assembly resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009,

Stressing that a durable ceasefire agreement must lead to a fundamental improvement in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, including through the sustained and regular opening of crossing points, and ensure the safety and well-being of civilians on both sides,

Expressing concern over the continued imposition of hundreds of checkpoints and obstacles to movement in and around Palestinian population centres by the Israeli occupying forces, and emphasizing in this regard the need for the implementation by both sides of the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings,

Expressing grave concern about the imprisonment and detention by Israel of thousands of Palestinians, including children, under harsh conditions, and all violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law which have occurred in this regard,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety, protection and well-being of all civilians in the whole Middle East region, and condemning all acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides, including the firing of rockets,

Stressing the need for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilian population throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, consistent with the provisions and obligations of international humanitarian law,

Stressing also the need to respect the right of peaceful assembly,

Welcoming the formation of the Palestinian Government of national consensus under the leadership of the President, Mahmoud Abbas, consistent with Palestine Liberation Organization commitments and the Quartet principles, and emphasizing the need for respect for and the preservation of the territorial integrity and unity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Affirming the need to support the Palestinian Government of national consensus in its assumption of full government responsibilities in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, in all fields, as well as through its presence at Gaza's crossing points,

Stressing the urgent need for sustained and active international involvement and for concerted initiatives to support the parties in building a climate for peace, to assist the parties in advancing and accelerating direct peace process negotiations for the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement that ends the

[a] S/PRST/2014/13; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013-31 July 2014* (S/INF/69).

occupation which began in 1967 and results in the independence of a democratic, contiguous and viable State of Palestine living side by side in peace and security with Israel and its other neighbours, on the basis of relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, the Quartet road map and the Arab Peace Initiative,

Taking note of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,[10]

Taking note also of its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012, by which, inter alia, Palestine was accorded non-member observer State status in the United Nations, and taking note of the follow-up report of the Secretary-General,[11]

Noting the accession by Palestine, on 1 April 2014, to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions,

Acknowledging the efforts being undertaken by civil society to promote a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

Recalling the findings by the International Court of Justice, in its advisory opinion, including on the urgent necessity for the United Nations as a whole to redouble its efforts to bring the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which continues to pose a threat to international peace and security, to a speedy conclusion, thereby establishing a just and lasting peace in the region,[12]

Stressing the urgency of achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967,

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects, and of intensifying all efforts towards that end, and stresses in this regard the urgency of salvaging the prospects for realizing the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders, and making tangible progress towards implementing that solution and justly resolving all final status issues;

2. *Calls for* the intensification of efforts by the parties, including through negotiations, with the support of the international community, towards the conclusion of a final peace settlement;

3. *Urges* the undertaking of renewed international efforts to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace, based on the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session,[9] the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[5] and the existing agreements between the Israeli and Palestinian sides;

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[10] A/66/371-S/2011/592, annex I.

[11] A/67/738.

[12] A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1, advisory opinion, para. 161.

4. *Stresses* the need for a resumption of negotiations based on the long-standing terms of reference and clear parameters and within a defined time frame aimed at expediting the realization of a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement, and in this regard encourages serious efforts by all concerned international and regional partners, including by the United States of America, the European Union, the Russian Federation and the United Nations, as members of the Quartet, and by the League of Arab States;

5. *Commends and encourages* continued serious regional and international efforts to follow up and promote the Arab Peace Initiative, including by the Ministerial Committee formed at the Riyadh summit in March 2007;

6. *Welcomes* the initiative launched by France aimed at mobilizing international support for Palestinian-Israeli peace and convening an international peace conference, the ongoing efforts of the Quartet to address the unsustainable situation on the ground and to promote meaningful negotiations, while stressing its recommendations, and the respective efforts by Egypt and the Russian Federation to promote dialogue and negotiations between the two parties;

7. *Calls for* the timely convening of an international conference in Moscow, as envisioned by the Security Council in its resolution 1850 (2008), for the advancement and acceleration of the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement;

8. *Calls upon* both parties to act responsibly on the basis of international law and their previous agreements and obligations, in both their policies and actions, in order to urgently reverse negative trends on the ground and create the conditions necessary for the launching of a credible political horizon and the advancement of peace efforts;

9. *Calls upon* the parties themselves, with the support of the Quartet and other interested parties, to exert all efforts necessary to halt the deterioration of the situation, to reverse all unilateral and unlawful measures taken on the ground since 28 September 2000, to take every possible step to promote conditions conducive to the success of peace negotiations and to refrain from actions that undermine trust or prejudge final status issues;

10. *Also calls upon* the parties to observe calm and restraint and to refrain from provocative actions, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric, especially in areas of religious and cultural sensitivity, including in East Jerusalem, and calls for respect for the historic status quo at the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif, in word and in practice, and for immediate and serious efforts to defuse tensions;

11. *Underscores* the need for the parties to take confidence-building measures aimed at improving the situation on the ground, promoting stability, building trust and fostering the peace process, and stresses the need, in particular, for an immediate halt to all settlement activities and home demolitions, ending violence and incitement and undertaking measures to address settler violence and ensure accountability, and for the further release of prisoners and an end to arbitrary arrests and detentions;

12. *Stresses* the need for the removal of checkpoints and other obstructions to the movement of persons and goods throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

13. *Also stresses* the need for an immediate and complete cessation of all acts of violence, including military attacks, destruction and acts of terror;

14. *Reiterates its demand* for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009);

15. *Reiterates* the need for the full implementation by both parties of the Agreement on Movement and Access and of the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, and the need, specifically, to allow for the sustained opening of all crossings into and out of the Gaza Strip for humanitarian supplies, movement and access of persons and goods, as well as for commercial flows, including exports, and all necessary construction materials, and stresses the urgent need to promote accelerated and comprehensive reconstruction and to address the alarming unemployment rate, including among youth, including through the implementation of United Nations-led projects, civilian reconstruction activities and job-creation programmes, all of which are essential for alleviating the disastrous humanitarian situation, including the impact of the large-scale displacement of civilians in July and August 2014, improving the living conditions of the Palestinian people and promoting the recovery of the Palestinian economy;

16. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, and to cease all of its measures that are contrary to international law and all unilateral actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, that are aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the Territory, including the confiscation and de facto annexation of land, and thus at prejudging the final outcome of peace negotiations, with a view to achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967;

17. *Reiterates its demand* for the complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls for the full implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions and for the consideration of measures of accountability, in accordance with international law, in the case of continued non-compliance, stressing that compliance with and respect for international humanitarian law and international human rights law is a cornerstone for peace and security in the region;

18. *Reiterates*, in this regard, the need for Israel forthwith to abide by its road map obligation to freeze all settlement activity, including so-called "natural growth", and to dismantle settlement outposts erected since March 2001;

19. *Calls for* the cessation of all provocations, including by Israeli settlers, in East Jerusalem, including in and around religious sites;

20. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered

on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice[7] and as demanded in General Assembly resolutions ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003 and ES-10/15, and, inter alia, that it immediately cease its construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and calls upon all States Members of the United Nations to comply with their legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion;

21. *Reaffirms its commitment*, in accordance with international law, to the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders;

22. *Calls for*:

(a) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem;

(b) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State;

23. *Stresses* the need for a just resolution of the problem of Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

24. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic, humanitarian and technical assistance to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Government during this critical period in order to help to alleviate the serious humanitarian situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which is dire in the Gaza Strip, to rehabilitate the Palestinian economy and infrastructure and to support the development and strengthening of Palestinian institutions and Palestinian State-building efforts in preparation for independence;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, towards the attainment of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the promotion of peace in the region and to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on these efforts and on developments on this matter.

United Nations A/71/L.21/Add.1

General Assembly

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30 November 2016

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 35
Question of Palestine

Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine: draft resolution

Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Mali and Viet Nam

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United Nations A/71/L.22

General Assembly

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18 November 2016

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 34
The situation in the Middle East

Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine: draft resolution

Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, in particular its provisions regarding the City of Jerusalem,

Recalling also its resolution 36/120 E of 10 December 1981 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including resolution 56/31 of 3 December 2001, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

Recalling further the Security Council resolutions relevant to Jerusalem, including resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" on Jerusalem,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[1] and recalling its resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Expressing its grave concern about any action taken by any body, governmental or non-governmental, in violation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

Expressing its grave concern also, in particular, about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of illegal settlement activities, including measures regarding the so-called E-1 plan, its construction of the wall in and around East Jerusalem, its restrictions on Palestinian access to and residence in East Jerusalem

[1] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

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and the further isolation of the city from the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which are having a detrimental effect on the lives of Palestinians and could prejudge a final status agreement on Jerusalem,

Expressing its grave concern further about the continuing Israeli demolition of Palestinian homes and other civilian infrastructure in and around East Jerusalem, the revocation of residency rights, and the eviction and displacement of numerous Palestinian families from East Jerusalem neighbourhoods, including Bedouin families as well as other acts of provocation and incitement, including by Israeli settlers, in the city, including desecration of mosques and churches,

Expressing its concern about the Israeli excavations undertaken in the Old City of Jerusalem, including in and around religious sites,

Expressing its grave concern, in particular, about tensions, provocations and incitement regarding the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al Sharif, and urging restraint and respect for the sanctity of the holy sites by all sides,

Reaffirming that the international community, through the United Nations, has a legitimate interest in the question of the City of Jerusalem and in the protection of the unique spiritual, religious and cultural dimensions of the city, as foreseen in relevant United Nations resolutions on this matter,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Middle East,[2]

1. *Reiterates its determination* that any actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem are illegal and therefore null and void and have no validity whatsoever, and calls upon Israel to immediately cease all such illegal and unilateral measures;

2. *Stresses* that a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of the City of Jerusalem should take into account the legitimate concerns of both the Palestinian and Israeli sides and should include internationally guaranteed provisions to ensure the freedom of religion and of conscience of its inhabitants, as well as permanent, free and unhindered access to the holy places by people of all religions and nationalities;

3. *Also stresses* the need for the parties to observe calm and restraint and to refrain from provocative actions, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric, especially in areas of religious and cultural sensitivity, and expresses its grave concern in particular about the recent series of negative incidents in East Jerusalem;

4. *Calls for* respect for the historic status quo at the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al Sharif, in word and practice, and urges all sides to work immediately and cooperatively to defuse tensions and halt all provocations, incitement and violence at the holy sites in the City;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[2] A/71/328 and Add.1.

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 34
The situation in the Middle East

Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine: draft resolution

Jerusalem

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Mali and Viet Nam

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